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RURAL DISTRICT
OF
MALMESBURY
1958



RURAL DISTRICT

of

MALMESBURY

T H E

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the

YEAR ENDING

31st DECEMBER

- 1958-

the same time, the number of species per genus is

$$n_{\text{gen}}^{(N)}$$

$$\frac{n_{\text{gen}}^{(N)}}{n_{\text{gen}}^{(N-1)}}$$

$$\frac{n_{\text{gen}}^{(N)}}{n_{\text{gen}}^{(N-2)}}$$

$$\frac{n_{\text{gen}}^{(N)}}{n_{\text{gen}}^{(N-3)}}$$

$$\frac{n_{\text{gen}}^{(N)}}{n_{\text{gen}}^{(N-4)}}$$

$$\frac{n_{\text{gen}}^{(N)}}{n_{\text{gen}}^{(N-5)}}$$

$$\frac{n_{\text{gen}}^{(N)}}{n_{\text{gen}}^{(N-6)}}$$

$$\frac{n_{\text{gen}}^{(N)}}{n_{\text{gen}}^{(N-7)}}$$

$$\frac{n_{\text{gen}}^{(N)}}{n_{\text{gen}}^{(N-8)}}$$

$$\frac{n_{\text{gen}}^{(N)}}{n_{\text{gen}}^{(N-9)}}$$

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$$\frac{n_{\text{gen}}^{(N)}}{n_{\text{gen}}^{(N-18)}}$$

$$\frac{n_{\text{gen}}^{(N)}}{n_{\text{gen}}^{(N-19)}}$$

$$\frac{n_{\text{gen}}^{(N)}}{n_{\text{gen}}^{(N-20)}}$$

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY

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(a) MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

C.L. Broomhead, M.D., B.Ch., D.P.H.

Also Medical Officer of Health for the Boroughs of Calne, Chippenham and Malmesbury and the Rural District of Calne & Chippenham.

(b) SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

R.S. Pierce, Cert. S.I.B., Meat & Other Food Inspector's Cert.

(c) DEPUTY SURVEYOR.

D.G. Davies, Cert. S.I.B., Meat & Other Food Inspector's Cert.

(d) ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

R.T. Baynham, Cert. S.I.B., Meat & Other Food Inspector's Cert.
Smoke Inspector's Cert.

(e) SECRETARY TO THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

S.G.V. Williamson, Cert. R.I.P.H.H.

I have the honour to present my annual report for the year ended 31st. December, 1958 in accordance with Ministry of Health Circular 22/58 dated 9th. December, 1958.

There were 196 live births during 1958. The birth rate (19.7 per 1000) shows a slight increase compared to 1957 (19.0 per 1000).

There were 78 deaths; the death rate (7.7 per 1000) is lower than that of the previous year. The principal causes of death were Cancer (16) and Coronary Disease (10).

Although notifiable infectious diseases were not epidemic, nevertheless certain of the more troublesome infections such as Poliomyelitis (1) Dysentery (13) and Food Poisoning (4) required environmental investigation.

Complaints are received from members of the public from time to time on the pollution of ditches or streams. It can be anticipated, since a high percentage of the population in the Rural District is now served with a piped water supply, that similar complaints will tend to increase. In consequence, a comprehensive report on sewage disposal, with a suggested policy for consideration by the Council in deciding priorities of future schemes, was presented to the Public Health Committee on the 11th. June, 1958.

The sewerage and sewage disposal scheme in the Parish of St. Paul Without, to be constructed in conjunction with the Malmesbury Borough Council, made little headway during the year. A report on the urgent need for compilation of this scheme was submitted to the Public Health Committee on the 13th. August, 1957.

The proposed Sewage Disposal Scheme for the Parish of Hullavington aimed at reduction of the pollution of the Gauze Brook, was approved by the Council. This Sewage Disposal Scheme presented some difficulty in that to be effective, it would need to include drainage from several farms draining into the Gauze Brook or drock.

Many samples of water were examined at the Public Health Laboratory during the year to ensure that the water in the Council's mains was bacteriologically satisfactory. Nevertheless, it should be appreciated that bacteriological examination per se does not ensure a safe water supply. Constant attention to the availability of free chlorine in the treated water is necessary. Certain small private undertakings were found to be providing a polluted water supply and were the subject of report to the Council and the necessary action taken to effect improvements. Details showing the sources and distribution of water throughout the Rural District, will be found in subsequent pages.

The important Slaughterhouse (Hygiene) Regulations, made on the 17th. December, 1958, came into operation on the 1st. January, 1959. The regulations are designed to secure the sanitary and cleanly conditions in connection with the construction and operation of Slaughterhouses and the handling of meat therein. The regulations apply to new slaughterhouses at once; it will be necessary for the existing slaughterhouse in the Rural District to conform by a date subsequent to the 2nd. November, 1959.

Details of the Council's Housing Returns made to the Ministry of Housing & Local Government, will be found in the report of the Senior Public Health Inspector.

Since the introduction of the National Health Act, the prevention of Tuberculosis is divided amongst three Authorities, i.e. The Regional Hospital Board, The County Council and the Local District Councils. This tripartite arrangement occasions some overlap. The Local District Councils are principally concerned with the environment, i.e. housing of the patient and the safeguarding of milk supplies and food production. The increase of Tuberculosis of the glands and bones has been reduced by safeguarding milk supplies either by the tuberculin testing of cattle or by pasteurisation. Tuberculosis of the lungs, in spite of improvements in housing conditions and nutrition was still a great problem a decade ago. Sanatoria were overcrowded and the death rate in males was four times the present rate. This great change has been effected by the introduction of new drugs. There is a tendency nowadays for notification of Pulmonary Tuberculosis to include a preponderance of elderly men in whom the disease has become a chronic condition. This has the effect of maintaining the total number of known cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis on the Register.

Only seven cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis were notified and confirmed during the year. A total of 57 cases remaining on the Register.

Many infectious diseases, frequently fatal, which affected man in the past, have now practically disappeared and no longer constitute a danger to health. Diseases such as Cholera, Typhus, Plague and Diphtheria are nowadays never seen by medical students. Diphtheria, first treated by anti-toxin to reduce mortality rates, is now prevented by immunisation, commenced during the last war. Before immunisation, the average annual notifications throughout the country were over 55,000 and the deaths nearly 2,800. The last available figures for 1957 show 57 notifications and six deaths, most of whom had not been immunised.

Scarlet Fever, although still a notifiable infectious disease, is no longer the serious illness of the past when either death or severe complications affecting the heart or kidneys were not unusual. The odd case of Scarlet Fever cropping up here and there is usually merely an expression, in a susceptible subject, of a generalised streptococcal infection in the public at large and is not infrequently associated with an outbreak of nose and throat infections.

Measles shows an increasing incidence and no preventive measures are available; the complications of measles however are nowadays controlled by either antibiotics or new drugs and no longer constitute a danger to life.

Pneumonia, usually fatal in the past, particularly in the elderly, can now be treated with the new antibiotics and drugs with a good chance of recovery. Tuberculous Meningitis and Cerebro Spinal Fever can also be cared for by similar methods.

The immunisation campaign against Poliomyelitis, after a slow start, has at last gained the confidence and attention of the public, although the demand for immunisation by the older groups of 15 to 26 years was negligible until the unfortunate death of a well known football player from Poliomyelitis.

In view of the changing pattern of infectious diseases, the law relating to notification now requires review and modification to bring it up to date. It is doubtful whether the notification of Measles serves any useful purpose or is worth the cost involved. In my opinion, notification of this infection should cease to be required.

Radioactivity from natural sources and the development and application of atomic energy is assuming considerable

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importance in public health. The destructive action on living cells is the same as the action of X-Rays or radium, the pioneers of X-Rays suffered considerably before adequate protective measures were considered necessary. Natural sources have always produced radiation in variable amounts but in amounts so small and with such limited application as to have little harmful effect. Artificial sources of radiation from the experimental explosion of atomic bombs, to the use of Strontium to luminise watches have been under investigation as to their cumulative effect on man for some time. The estimation of Strontium 90 in drinking water is thought advisable in some quarters, but estimation requires highly skilled technicians with considerable experience and expensive equipment. Much of the radioactivity in various foods is fortunately excreted, the cumulative effect depends on the body function controlling its retention.

The preventive measures required by law and the greater efficiency of curative medicine by the use of new drugs and antibiotics have greatly reduced the activities of Local District Councils in the control of outbreaks of infectious disease. Massive outbreaks of serious infection are nowadays unlikely, nevertheless constant vigilance is still required to ensure that the public receives a pure water supply, clean and wholesome food, prepared and distributed under hygienic conditions, safe milk production and distribution, adequate housing, sewage disposal and finally clean air.

I am, Mr. Chairman & Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

C.L. BROOMHEAD,

Medical Officer of Health.

GENERAL STATISTICS

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Area (in acres)	58,090
Population	10,200
No. of inhabited houses (end of 1958 according to the Rate Book)	3062
Rateable Value	£103,342
Sum represented by Penny Rate	£420

VITAL STATISTICS.LIVE BIRTHS

<u>BIRTHS</u>	<u>MALES</u>	<u>FEMALES</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Legitimate	90	96	186
Illegitimate	3	7	10
TOTAL	93	103	196

Crude Birth Rate for the District	19.2 per 1000 of the population
Adjusted Birth Rate for the District	19.7 per 1000 of the population
Birth Rate for England & Wales	16.4 per 1000 of the population.

The Birth Rate for 1958 is slightly higher compared with the rate for 1957 which was 19.0 per 1000 of the population (adjusted).

The population figure includes members of the Armed Forces stationed in the area and the Birth Rate is based on this population. To make an approximate allowance for the way in which the sex and age distribution of the local population differs from that for England & Wales as a whole, the Crude Birth Rate for the area is multiplied by the Area Comparability Factor (1.03).

STILL BIRTHS

The following Still Births were recorded during 1958.

	<u>MALES</u>	<u>FEMALES</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Legitimate	2	2	4
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Total	2	2	4

Rate per 1000 total live and still births.	20.0
Comparative rate for England & Wales	21.6

INFANT MORTALITY

Deaths of infants under 1 year.

	<u>MALES</u>	<u>FEMALES</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Legitimate	3	1	4
Illegitimate	-	-	-
TOTAL	3	1	4

Rate per 1000 live births.	20.4
Comparative rate for England & Wales	22.5

Two of the infants shown in the above table died during the first 4 weeks of life.

Deaths recorded in the Rural District during 1958 were as follows:-

Males	Females	Total
40	38	78

Crude Death Rate for the District 7.6 per 1000 of the population.
 Adjusted Death Rate for the District 7.7 per 1000 of the population.
 Comparative Rate for England & Wales 11.7 per 1000 of the population.

The Death Rate is lower this year as compared with the rate for 1957 which was 9.282 per 1000 of the population (adjusted).

The population figure includes members of the Armed Forces stationed in the area and the Death Rate is based on this population. To make an approximate allowance for the way in which the sex and age distribution of the local population differs from that for England & Wales as a whole, the Crude Death Rate for the area is multiplied by the Area Comparability Factor (1.02).

ANALYSIS OF CAUSES OF DEATH.

	Males	Females	Total
Tuberculosis, respiratory	1	-	1
Tuberculosis, other	-	-	-
Syphilitic disease	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	-
Meningococcal infections	-	-	-
Ac. Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
Measles	-	-	-
Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-	-
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	2	1	3
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	2	1	3
Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	3	3
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	-	-
Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms	5	2	7
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	1	1
Diabetes	-	-	-
Vascular lesions of nervous system	5	5	10
Coronary disease, angina	7	3	10
Hypertension with heart disease	1	1	2
Other heart disease	2	8	10
Other circulatory disease	2	2	4
Influenza	-	-	-
Pneumonia	-	1	1
Bronchitis	-	2	2
Other diseases of respiration system	1	-	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	-	-	-
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	3	-	3
Hyperplasia of prostate	-	-	-
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-	-
Congenital malformations	3	-	3
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	2	7	9
Motor vehicle accidents	4	-	4
All other accidents	-	1	1
Suicide	-	-	-
Homicide & operations of war	-	-	-
TOTALS:-	40	38	78

The following table shows the infectious diseases notified during 1958 with comparative figures for each year since 1954.

DISEASE	1954		1955		1956		1957		1958	
	a	b	a	b	a	b	a	b	a	b
Scarlet Fever	1	1	6	5	2	2	5	5	-	-
Whooping Cough	57	57	37	37	9	9	11	11	13	13
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	6	6	180	180	7	7	266	266	68	68
Ac.Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Ac.Poliomyelitis (Non-Paralytic)	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	-
Dysentery	3	1	1	-	1	1	1	1	15	13
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Para.Typhoid Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Typhoid	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	4	4	8	8	1	1	8	8	1	1
Food Poisoning.	-	-	1	-	3	-	-	-	4	4
TOTALS:-	72	70	234	231	23	20	291	291	104	100

"a" = numbers originally notified.

"b" = final numbers after correction.

Although two cases of Poliomyelitis were notified, only one, a paralytic case was subsequently confirmed after laboratory investigation.

There was some increase in the notifications of Dysentery. All cases are fully investigated and the measures necessary to prevent spread are put into effect. This is considered particularly necessary whenever milk production and distribution are concerned.

New cases of Tuberculosis notified and confirmed by the County Chest Physician during 1958 are as follows, together with comparative figures for previous years since 1949.

NEW CASES DURING.

YEAR	PULMONARY	NON-PULMONARY	TOTAL
1949	3	-	3
1950	3	4	7
1951	6	-	6
1952	3	2	5
1953	8	-	8
1954	7	4	11
1955	5	-	5
1956	4	-	4
1957	2	1	3
1958	7	1	8

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY
DURING 1958 ACCORDING TO AGE & SEX.

AGE PERIODS	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Resp.		Non-Resp.		Resp.		Non-Resp.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0								
1								
5								
15		1						
25								
35				2				
45								
55								
65 upwards								
TOTALS	3	4	1	2	-	-	-	-

The Analysis of Causes of Death shown on page of this report shows only one death from Pulmonary Tuberculosis, whereas the above table shows two deaths from this cause. The reason for this is that the primary cause of death in one case was not tuberculosis.

The environment of all new cases of tuberculosis is investigated by the Health Inspector, and in certain cases a recommendation is made to the Council for the rehousing of the patient and his family. Contacts of all notified cases of tuberculosis come under the surveillance of the County Chest Physician.

In addition to the new cases notified each year, a certain proportion of tuberculous persons either move into the district or move out. According to the Register of Tuberculous Persons, the following notified and confirmed cases of tuberculosis were living in the Rural District at the end of 1958.

	Males	Females	Total
Pulmonary	23	34	57
Non-Pulmonary	9	7	16
Total	32	41	73

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948 (SECTION 47)
Removal to suitable Institutions of persons
in need of care and attention.

It was not found necessary to effect the removal to hospital of any person under the provisions of the above Act.

DIPHTHERIA AND WHOOPING COUGH IMMUNISATION.

The following children received primary immunisation during 1958.

<u>Under 1 year</u>	<u>Ages 1-4 yrs.</u>	<u>Ages 5-14 yrs</u>
178	46	5
<u>TOTAL 229</u>		

The total immunised child population at 31.12.58 was as follows:-

<u>Ages 0-4 yrs.</u>	<u>Ages 5-14 yrs</u>
477	1498
<u>TOTAL 1975</u>	

VACCINATION

The following children were vaccinated during 1958.

<u>Under 1 yr.</u>	<u>Ages 1-4 yrs</u>	<u>Ages 5-14 yrs</u>
76	6	Nil
<u>Ages 15 or over</u>		<u>Total</u>
1		83

In addition to the above, a further 8 children were re-vaccinated during 1958.

The following detail concerning water supplies has been furnished by Mr. Campbell, the Council's Waterworks Manager.

Supplies in Bulk from Other Authorities.

From Cricklade and Wootton Bassett R.D.C. to: Parishes of Brinkworth, Minety and parts of Charlton.

Malmsbury Borough Council to parts of St. Paul Without and Brokenborough.

Areas supplied in detail by West Gloucestershire Water Company.

Luckington, Sopworth, Sherston, Norton & Foxley and Brokenborough.

Mainlaying.

The 3" diameter main was extended for a distance of 900 yards to Breeches and Moonleaze Farms, Minety.

The 3" diameter main was extended from Kembles Farm Minety to Cockroost and Stonehill Farms and dwellings in the parish of Charlton a distance of 2450 yards.

A 3" diameter branch main was laid from the Bristol Road to Park Farm and St. George's in the parish of St. Paul Without a distance of 190 yards.

Length of main laid during year	2.00 miles
Laid previously	<u>76.57</u>
	<u>78.57</u>

Pumping and Booster Stations.

The pumping station at Charlton and the Booster station at Hankerton were brought into full operation in March, 1958.

The whole of the Council's area of supply is now served from the two pumping stations at Corston and Charlton.

No shortage of water was experienced at any of the sources during the year.

Total water supplies in District.

Malmsbury R.D.C. own sources	74,000,000
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Bulk Supplies.

Cricklade & Wootton Bassett R.D.C.	28,600,000
Malmsbury Borough Council	<u>3,595,000</u>
West Gloucestershire Water Co. (in detail)	25,000,000
Private sources (estimated)	<u>6,000,000</u>

Total water consumed in district	<u>137,195,000</u> gallons.
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Bulk supply afforded to Calne and Chippenham R.D.C. to supply Seagry area.	4,000,000 gallons.
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Brokenborough.

The West Gloucestershire Water Co. completed the mainlaying in the village of Brokenborough.

<u>Statistics</u>					11
<u>Sources of Supply</u>	No. of houses in district.	with piped supply	% of total	Popul- ation supplied	% of Total.
Malmesbury R.D.C.		1431	45.18	4739	46.46
Cricklade & Wootton Bassett		533	16.89	1752	17.23
Malmesbury Borough		89	2.81	293	2.87
West Glos. Water Co.		628	19.83	1995	19.56
Air Ministry (Calne & Chippenham R.D.C.)		162	5.11	535	5.24
Private Supplies		85	2.62	269	2.58
	<u>3167</u>	<u>2928</u>	<u>92.44</u>	<u>9583</u>	<u>93.94</u>
Without piped supply from mains.		239	7.56%	617	6.06
	Houses in Parish	Houses directly supplied	Popul- ation supplied	Private piped supplies	Populati- on priv- ate piped supplies
Brinkworth	310	303	1020		
Brokenborough	123	122	398		
Charlton	144	109	380	19	60
Crudwell	207	144	458	17	54
Dauntsey	132	130	413		
Easton Grey	31	4	12	25	79
Great Somerford	174	156	496		
Hankerton	70	43	150		
Hullavington	264	245	790		
Lea & Cleverton	174	155	520		
Little Somerford	86	86	273		
Luckington	157	146	464		
Minety	244	232	738	2	6
Foxley & Norton	46	41	130		
Oaksey	147	125	397	3	10
St. Paul Without	433	419	1457		
Sherston	391	351	1116	19	60
Sopworth	34	34	108		
	<u>3167</u>	<u>2845</u>	<u>9320</u>	<u>85</u>	<u>269</u>

REPORT OF SURVEYOR AND PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1958.

HOUSING.

Erection of Council Houses.

The erection of 34 three-bedroomed houses and 21 two-bedroomed bungalows at Parklands, Bristol Road, Malmesbury, was completed during the year. As a result the occupants of the temporary bungalows at Barley Close, Burton Hill and of the huts at Charlton Centre and the Day Nursery were rehoused.

A total of 71 families were accommodated in Council Houses during the year.

Number of visits to housing sites and houses in course of construction

174

The Council now own 517 permanent dwellings as follows:-

24	1	bedroomed bungalows.
43	2	" "
25	2	" houses.
415	3	" "
10	4	" "

It will be observed that the greater part of the Council's houses are three-bedroomed and there is no doubt that a large number of these are underoccupied and that the present occupants could be satisfactorily housed in smaller accommodation if they were willing to move.

Maintenance of Council Houses.

The policy of repairing houses mainly by direct labour has continued satisfactorily, 5 men being employed.

Attention has been given to the improvement of paths and boundary fences, and the maintenance of the sewage disposal plants has been more satisfactory through the employment of 2 men solely for this work.

Schemes are in course of preparation for the improvement of the Council's 164 pre-war houses by the installation of bathrooms, water closets, hot water systems etc.

The average cost of repair and maintenance during the year was approximately £12.0.0. per house.

Number of inspections of occupied Council houses

524

Barley Close, Burton Hill.

The 14 temporary bungalows on this site were sold with the contents and fittings, and were demolished and cleared by the purchasers.

Charlton Centre and Wartime Day Nursery.

These sites were released from requisition following the sale and demolition of the buildings.

Private Enterprise Building.

No. of houses completed during the year
No. in course of erection

16

17

Administration of Building Byelaws.

No. of plans submitted for approval	114
No. of plans passed	114
No. of inspections in connection therewith	542

Town and Country Planning Act, 1947.

The Council continued to exercise the powers delegated by the Wilts. County Council with regard to development control.

No. of applications for permission to develop	96
No. approved without conditions	40
No. approved with conditions	50
No. of applications withdrawn	1
No. of applications refused	5
No. of inspections in connection therewith	201

Temporary Dwellings.

All caravan sites licensed by the Council have been well maintained and are provided with adequate water supplies and sanitary accommodation.

One site is licensed for the stationing of 16 caravans, three sites for 3 caravans on each and 7 caravans are licensed individually.

No. of inspections	16
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Inspection of Dwellings.

No. of inspections of dwellings for defects under Housing or Public Health Acts	412
No. of dwellings found to be unfit for human habitation	Nil
No. found to be not in all respects fit	106
No. of dwellings repaired by informal action	64
No. of cases of statutory action	Nil
No. of houses demolished	1
No. of houses closed	4
No. of overcrowded dwellings known at end of year	Nil

Housing Act, 1949 - Improvement Grants.

The number of houses improved with grant aid continues to increase, but some owners are awaiting the passing of the House Purchase and Housing Act before deciding whether to apply for a standard or discretionary grant. There appears to be no doubt that the passing of the Act will result in an increase in applications for grant.

No. of applications received during the year	30
No. of applications approved	29
No. of applications withdrawn	1
No. of schemes completed	26
Average grant per dwelling	£288

WATER.

During the year the following samples were taken for bacteriological examination:-

Source	No. of samples	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Brokenborough	1	1	-
Charlton	7	7	-
Chelworth	78	29	49
Corston	35	35	-
Corston/Charlton main	24	24	-
Crudwell	3	3	-
Easton Grey	13	11	2
Minety	12	12	-
Oaksey	3	3	-
Sherston	10	10	-
Westonbirt main	10	10	-
	196	145	51

No. of inspections in connection therewith

214

A chlorinating plant was installed on the Chelworth supply at the end of the year and as a result satisfactory samples are now being obtained.

The Easton Grey supply is subject to pollution, the bad samples being due to a breakdown in the chlorinating plant. A scheme is in course of preparation for the supply of the village by the West Gloucester Water Company and the closure of the present village supply.

SEWERS AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

The installation of main water supplies throughout practically the whole of the District, and consequent increase in drainage, makes the need for main sewage schemes greater than ever.

The Council's policy has been to encourage house building by private enterprise and the improvement of older property by the installation of water closets and baths, the only possible drainage outfalls in many cases at present being cesspits or septic tanks. In areas with pervious subsoil effluent disposal by soakage is reasonably efficient but in that part of the District with a clay or water logged subsoil the tendency is growing for ditches and water-courses to become polluted, with consequent complaints from residents in the vicinity. Until such time as sewage schemes can be provided, if houses are to be improved the occupants must be prepared to accept a certain amount of inconvenience in drainage disposal.

The Sherston sewage disposal plant has been well maintained during the year and samples of effluent have been reported to be excellent.

The scheme for Hullavington is in course of preparation and its installation will result in the elimination of one of the worst cases of pollution in the Rural District.

No. of inspections in connection with sewage disposal

218

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

Refuse is now collected fortnightly, by direct labour, over the whole of the Rural District, 2 men being employed.

The volume of refuse collected continues to increase and is deposited at 4 tips, Brinkworth and Hullavington (owned by the Council), Sherston and Oaksey (by agreement with the owners).

No serious difficulty has been experienced at the tips, but the finding of new tipping sites when the present ones are full will not be easy. The Brinkworth tip is practically full and its use will probably have to cease during the next few months. There is room at Oaksey for probably 12 - 18 months tipping and attempts are being made to obtain an alternative tip.

Too many householders continue to use unsuitable containers for refuse. A covered fly-proof bin should be provided in every case.

Mileage covered by lorries

12,381

No. of inspections in connection with refuse collection and disposal.

87

RODENT CONTROL.

Refuse tips have been treated for destruction of rats as required.

Private premises are treated without charge, on request.

No. of properties inspected for infestations

184

No. of properties found to be infested and treated

56

No. of visits in connection therewith

280

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

46 visits were made and the necessary action taken following reported cases of infectious disease.

NUISANCES.

Regular inspections have been made over the District to detect and deal with nuisances. It has not been necessary to recommend the Council to take statutory action in any case, all nuisances having been dealt with informally.

No. of inspections

189

FOOD INSPECTION.Meat.

1 private slaughterhouse is licensed and there are 3 butchers shops in the District. They are all clean and in good condition. The carcasses of all animals slaughtered were examined.

Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	57	2	5	9	49	nil
Number inspected	57	2	5	9	49	nil
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci						
Whole carcasses condemned,	nil	nil	nil	1	nil	nil
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	nil	nil	nil	nil	3	nil
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	nil	nil	nil	11.11	6.12	nil
Tuberculosis only:						
Whole carcasses condemned.	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	2	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	3.51	nil	nil	nil	1.82	nil
Cysticercosis						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration.	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil
Generalised and totally condemned	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil

Milk.

The Council are responsible for control of the distribution of milk and not for production.

No. of registered Distributors	3
No. of licensed Dealers in Pasteurised milk	5
No. of licensed Dealers in Tuberculin Tested milk	3
No. of Dealers with supplementary licence to use designation Pasteurised	1
No. of Dealers with supplementary licence to use designation Tuberculin Tested	3
No. of inspections of premises	9

Bakehouses.

One bakehouse was closed during the year, the 3 remaining in use are clean and generally satisfactory.

Fried Fish Shops.

One shop is registered for the sale of fried fish and is satisfactory.

Ice-Cream.

No ice-cream is manufactured in the District, and all sold is pre-packed by the Makers.

No. of premises registered for sale of ice-cream	27
No. of inspections	43

Public Houses.

Progress continues to be made in the provision of adequate sanitary conveniences and cleansing facilities in public houses, and most are now satisfactory. One public house was closed during the year.

No. of inspections	36
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Food Hygiene Regulations.

The few mobile vehicles operating in the District are satisfactory though verbal cautions have been given in a few cases. All premises in the District used for the sale of food are generally in good condition and well maintained.

Schedule of Food Premises in the District.

	Number	Number of Inspections.
Butchers	3	12
Grocers (including General Stores)	32	49
Bakers	3	9
Ice-cream	27	43
Public Houses	37	34
Greengrocers	1	2
Fish and Chips	1	2
Restaurants and Canteens	5	8
	109	159

THE DISEASES OF ANIMALS (WASTE FOODS) ORDER, 1957.

All premises were satisfactory, 2 having temporarily ceased to carry on any processing of waste food.

No. of licences issued under the Order	10
No. of visits made	12

STORAGE OF PETROLEUM.

All premises used for the storage of petroleum spirit and carbide of calcium are satisfactory.

No. of premises licensed for storage of petroleum spirit	60
No. of premises licensed for storage of carbide of calcium	1
No. of inspections	51

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS.

During the year the total number of inspections made by Officers of the Department was
3,476

